(d) the number of cases of disqualified agencies during the last three years and till date; year-wise details; and

(e) whether the advertisements tariff for the publication are decided by the Southern Railway or by the advertising agency concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRIBANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The General Managers are empowered to form a panel of advertising agencies for undertaking advertising campaigns on specific terms and conditions. The panel is normally valid for two years. Railway administrations call for applications from the professional advertising agencies for empanelment. The agencies are empanelled by a Committee of Officers and approved by the General Manager concerned.

(c) Since only those advertising agencies are empanelled who have interest and expertise in the field and who can provide efficient and dependable service, fresh inclusion/disqualification is normally not done during the empanelled period.

(d) Nil.

(c) The advertisement tariff for the publications is fixed by the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, New Delhi.

Assistance to H.P. for Improving S and T Infrastructure

5240. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many academic institutions indicating their places of functioning in Himachal Pradesh have been supported thr[illegible] programmes of Fund for Improvement of Science and Technology [illegible]e during 2001-02 and 2002-03, so far; and

(b) the amount released to these institutions [illegible]g the above period, district-wise and institution-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY [illegible]E AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT) : (a) and (b) Dur[illegible]01-2002 and 2002-2003, one department *i.e.* Department of Physics, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla has been identified under the Scheme Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure (FIST) of Department of Science and Technology (DST) and a grant of Rs. 47.5 lakh has been released to this Department.